

UNAPPROVED

BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING SALEM TOWN OFFICE BUILDING SPECIAL MEETING MARCH 22, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

TJ Butcher
Eckart, C.
Griggs, J.
Householder, G.
Preston, G.
Lee, P. (Alt)
Kennedy, D. (Alt)
Weinschenker, W.

ABSENT:

Dolan, J. (Alt)

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Weinschenker called the meeting to order at 7:07 P.M.

AGENDA:

1.) REVIEW/ACT ON BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2012/2013 FY.

Chairman Weinschenker stated "this is a special year because of revaluation" and he will spend more time on explaining the mil rate and how this will affect taxes. Some taxpayers will see their taxes go down while others will see an increase in taxes even though the mil rate increased.

A. Tabled Items:

- **School Maintenance items**

Chairman Weinschenker read from the January 26, 2012 minutes stating that the BOF is in favor of the three school maintenance items that were tabled.

M/S/C (Griggs/Preston) to add three school items to the Capital Budget as follows: Battery Burnisher for Floor - \$10,000, Metal Ceiling Park and Play Area \$50,000, and Upgrade Dirt Track/Athletic Field \$32,000 for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

- **GLVFCO Tanker Pumper**

Discussion followed on whether to purchase the Tanker/Pumper. Chief Savalle informed the Board that he provided the BOF financial information on the purchase of this equipment. He also reminded the Board that the fire truck takes nine months to build. There is engineering work being done on this type of truck because of new safety regulation requirement. The new figures on the cost of this tank range from \$379,000-\$448,000. The new requested amount is \$450,000. There are no definite numbers available at this time.

TJ Butcher looked at the ten year capital plan and stated that it looks like there are four trucks on the ten year capital plan that will be over 25 years old.

W. Weinshenker referred to the Shipman's report on the condition of this truck. The report stated that the truck is in good shape and it will last a few more years. Both W. Weinschenker and G. Householder stated that this item is not ready to fund tonight. There are too many unanswered questions.

Carole Eckart asked the BOF to look at funding the Capital Reserve Account in the 2012/2013 budget year to have money available for upcoming capital items.

M/S/C (Butcher/Griggs) to add Gardner Lake Volunteer Fire Company Tanker/Pumper to the Capital Budget in the amount of \$450,000 for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Yes (0)

No: (Butcher, Eckart, Griggs, Householder, Preston, Weinschenker)

Motion declined.

- **GLVFCO Parking Lot**

The Chairman asked First Selectman Lyden if he has any information on the parking lot repair at the fire company. First Selectman Lyden suggested we keep this item in the Capital Budget with the PW Crew doing the work.

The Board asked Public Works Director, D. Bourdeau, for more information. D. Bourdeau informed the BOF that the Town has been work with the State because drainage will go onto Route 356 which is owned by the State. He is working with the State to get approvals. The Board asked the Public Works Director for an estimated figure to fix this area. It was stated that \$75,000 would be a good figure. D. Bourdeau stated that his crew would not be able to start work on this project until the fall.

G. Preston was concerned about the lack of information on this project. He stated that we ask all departments to come before the board with firm quotes on items requested.

M/S/C (Butcher/Preston) to add Gardner Lake Fire Company's parking lot seal and repair to the Capital Budget in the amount of \$75,000, for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Yes (Butcher, Eckart, Griggs, Preston)

No: (Householder, Weinschenker)

Motion Approved

- **SUV**

M/S/C (Butcher/Householder) to add SUV to the Capital budget in the amount \$22,000 for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

- **SVFCO Kitchen**

TJ Butcher, along with Chief Maiorano and Mr. Teal, did a lot of research on the Kitchen project. Chief Maiorano has updated information he will share with the BOF tonight.

Chief Maiorano presented to the BOF updated information on repairs to the kitchen at the Salem Fire Company. The items that were changed from the original request were oak cabinets instead of cherry and also laminate counter top instead of quartz in some areas. The new request for updating the kitchen is \$12,900. K. Lyden informed the Board that the kitchen is not in compliance with health regulations according with the Town's Sanitarian. The Firehouse kitchen is used by the community and must be updated to be in compliance.

M/S/C (Preston/Butcher) to add the kitchen repair to the Capital budget in the amount \$13,000 for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

There was one department that was tabled that needs to be addressed.

- **Assessor's Department #116**

The information that was needed was the name of the line item "One time Expense". Norm Wood informed the BOF the two expenses in line #116-95-0099 are annual expenses.

M/S/C (Preston/Butcher) to change the name of line item #116-95-0099 to Bindings/DMV Expense for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

M/S/C (Householder/Butcher) to approve dept #116 in the amount of \$7,800 for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

Selectman Lyden expressed his concern about the Bond Anticipation Note expenses. The \$50,000 that was approved at an earlier meeting is not enough. The cost of going to bonding will be needed in July. Chairman Weinschenker agreed with the Selectman. W. Weinshenker does not think \$50,000 nor \$80,000 is enough for this coming budget year.

M/S/C (Preston/Butcher) to appropriate \$100,000 to the 2012 school Bond Payment, line #910-95-993, for presentation at the Public Hearing.

Vote: Approved Unanimously

Discussion followed on the revenue portion of the budget. It was noted that the spreadsheet had \$283,000 added two times. This was adjusted.

It was stated that the unassigned Funds stand at 11.5% when you consider the TAR Account, Capital Reserve Account and the reimbursement of 80% funding from the Sidewalk Project into the mix.

The BOF discussed how to minimize the increases in taxes to the taxpayer by using the TAR Funds to balance the budget. The BOF members believe this is a special year because of the revaluation.

M/S/C (Preston/Butcher) to add \$200,000 to line item #92-200-0001 (TAR)

Vote: Approved Unanimously

M/S/C (Preston/Butcher) to approve the following proposed 2012/2013 budget amount for presentation at the Public Hearing.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 3,466,249
SALEM BOARD OF EDUCATION	\$10,118,255
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES	\$ <u>794,830</u>
TOTAL	\$14,379,334

Vote: Approved Unanimously

M/S/C (Butcher/Griggs) to adjourn at 9:30 P.M.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously

VIRGINIA CASEY

Recording Secretary